

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. WO-194

Magi No. 2401945604

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name) \*

historic Keas House\*

and/or common Stehl House

**2. Location**

street & number 102 South Main Street    not for publication

city, town Berlin    vicinity of    congressional district 1st

state Maryland county Worcester

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture	<u>  </u> museum
<u>  </u> building(s)	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial	<u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment	<u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government	<u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial	<u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  </u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military	<u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John and Dee Stehl

street & number 102 South Main Street telephone no.: 301-641-1339

city, town Berlin state and zip code MD 21811

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Courthouse    liber

street & number Market Street    folio

city, town Snow Hill state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title   

date       federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records   

city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. WO-194

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☐ good  
☒ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This 2½-story frame dwelling sits on a slope rising on the west side of South Main Street in Berlin at the south corner of Washington Street. Its steeply pitched truncated hip roof and complex forms, featuring cross gables, one and two story bay projections, create a lively and imposing architectural design.

The principle (east) facade is three bays across, the two right bays projecting forward under a large cross gable. The gable pediment contains an arched 1/1 window flanked by small diamond-paned sash, creating a Palladian window effect. Windows throughout are 1/1. The entrance is in the center bay. The double paneled doors are flanked by side lights and transom lights of colored glass design. A verandah with a low cross gable centered over the entrance extends across the front facade and curves around the north corner. The porch roof is supported by square posts, replacements for turned posts with balustrade visible against the wall. The remaining bay on the front facade contains a pair of 1/1 windows on each floor and a bold steeply pitched gable dormer in the roof.

The North and South facades each have two-story bay projections, one being square sided, the other having truncated sides. In addition, the South facade has a one-story, three-windowed bay. The house is sheathed with asbestos shingles over clapboards. The dormer and pediments of cross gables are believed to have decorative wooden shingles. Cresting is absent from roof.

This house's exterior decorative elements are unique to Berlin. A course of panels with molding extends around the house between the boxed cornice and the top of the second floor windows. Applied swags accent panels over some windows and an applied wreath with side embellishments adorn the pediment over the porch entrance.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. WO-194

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

## Specific dates

## Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Situated on a hill at the corner of Washington and South Main Street in Berlin's historic district, the Keas house is imposing in scale and form. Its combination of Queen Ann form and colonial revival decorative elements is unique to Berlin and adds an important dimension to the historic area.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Page Hammond

organization Berlin Historic District Commission date November, 1985

street &amp; number 313 South Main Street telephone 641-0773

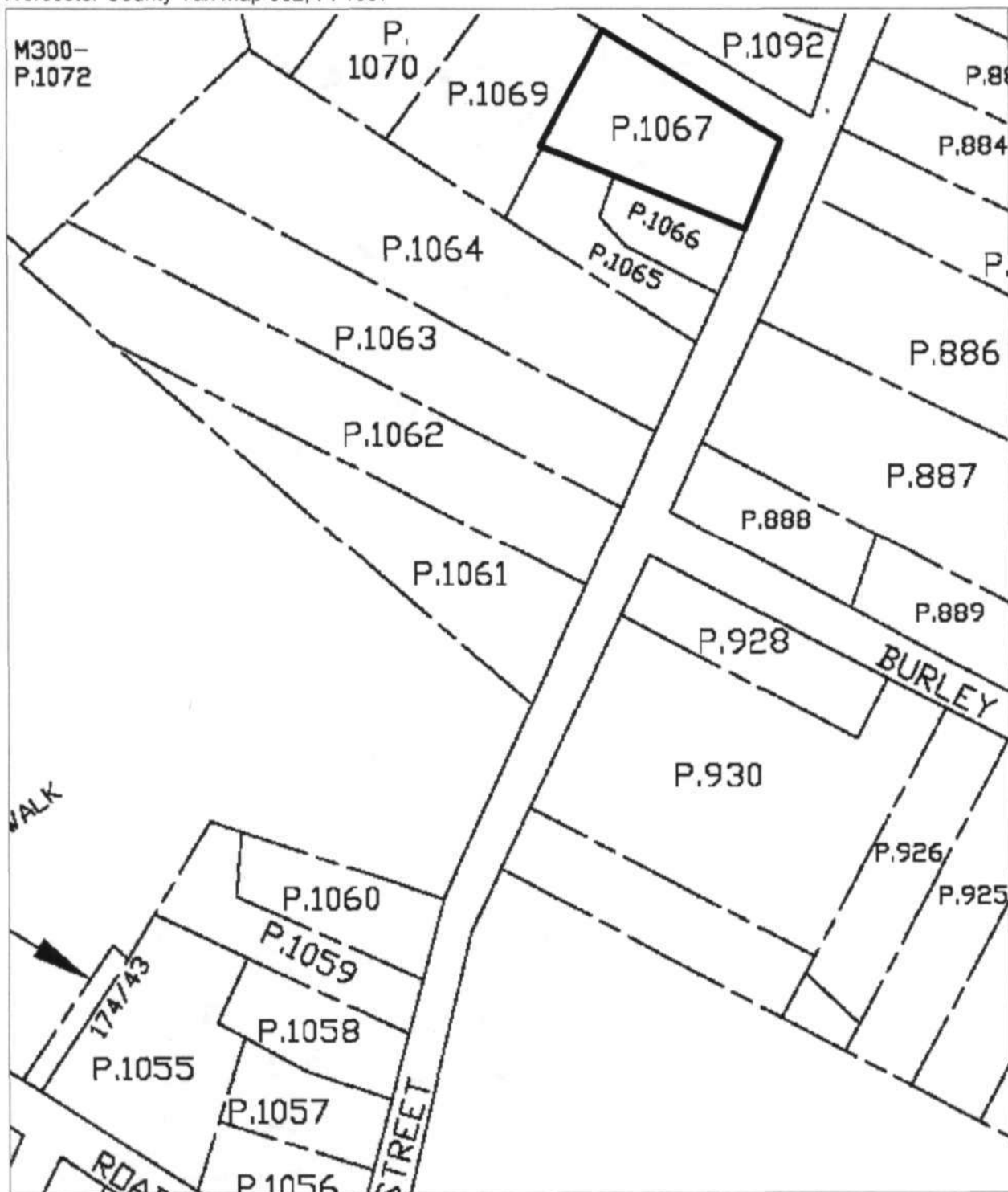
city or town Berlin state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

WO-194  
John T. Keas House (Stehl House)  
102 S. Main Street (MD 818), Berlin  
Worcester County Tax Map 302, P. 1067





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John T. Keas House (Stehl House)  
102 S. Main St.  
Berlin  
Berlin Quad.  
Worcester County

